

The City of Springfield, Ohio
City Commission Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 4, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.
City Service Center, 2100 Lagonda Avenue, Springfield, Ohio

The special meeting was called to order by President Copeland. Roll call was answered by Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

CITY COMMISSION ANNUAL RETREAT, continued

76-20 City Manager Heck reviewed each of the 2019-2020 goals with the City Commissioners to determine which items should be included in the 2020-2021 goals and objectives. Commissioners and staff made suggestions to update each section.

Under Strong City Operations, discussion included implementation of a new software solution for job postings and application processing that will be available for use soon along with suggestions for testing and recruitment changes. The search for a new financial software program progresses with a Request for Proposal in the near future. Conversation pertaining to public safety software needs that allows for online records search was included.

The Economic Development goal discussion primarily included continuation of the efforts in place and adding the airport to the list of economic sites for promotion.

The Improved Quality of Life discussion included the addition of the Engaged Neighborhood program to the ongoing efforts. Code Enforcement efforts continue to be essential along with the continued Safe Streets Task Force efforts. Discussion included the paving of neighborhood streets with funding available from the tax levy. The South Limestone Street corridor will be included this section to address the food desert created after the Kroger grocery closure. The southwest side of the city also has a similar situation following the closure of another grocery. Transportation efforts will be reviewed including public and private partners.

Discussion related to the More Vibrant Downtown goal included the new parking garage, a parking management plan, and downtown activities that will be enhanced with a new position co-funded by the city and the Chamber of Commerce.

Assistant City Manager and Director of Economic Development Franzen shared activities and projects related to the Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), and AirparkOhio. Activities at the airport in the past year include many maintenance projects, public events, and the state's SkyVision activities.

Fire Chief Miller presented the findings from Fire Station Physical Conditions Report as prepared by a consulting firm, BKV Group. The average age of the seven existing fire houses is 54 years old. Fire Station No. 3 received a critical rating and too small to properly fit a standard-size fire engine. The remaining fire stations are in need of upgrades but are not considered as critical. Property owned by the city could be considered as a replacement location for Station No. 3.

Finance Director Beckdahl presented a five-year financial forecast for 2021 through 2025 and noted continuance of the additional 0.4 percent income tax would present a balanced budget through 2025. Discussion included budgeting for a replacement fire station and tax levy options.

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On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mrs. Chilton, the special meeting adjourned into Executive Session on Personnel Appointment.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland. Yeas 5, Nays 0.

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the Executive Session adjourned.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland. Yeas 5, Nays 0.

There being no further business, on motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the special meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland. Yeas 5, Nays 0.



PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION



CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION